Master of Science in the field of

FOOD INDUSTRY: MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING

Driving professionalism in modern food industry

Apply for entry in September 2023
Established by the School of Biological Sciences in 1998, the MSc in the field of Food Industry: Management and Marketing programme:

- offers advanced training in management skills and marketing research methodology for food and/or nutritional science graduates working or planning to work in the food industry
- differs from other management programmes in that students are taught management and marketing skills relevant to the food industry, using case studies drawn from the food sector
- Instruction is given by the academic staff and experts both locally and from overseas with relevant industrial experience

Why this Programme

Where will this Programme Lead You

World-class rankings of HKU

Times Higher Education (THE)

- World Rankings 2022
  - #4
- Asia Rankings 2022
  - #3

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)

- World Rankings 2023
  - #21
- Asia Rankings 2022
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18% of our professoriate staff are the world’s Top 1% scholars

Top-notch Scientists in the Faculty

Clarivate Analytics’ Essential Science Indicators 2021

The School was founded in 2007 following the merger of the Departments of Zoology, Botany, and Ecology & Biodiversity. Through a range of approaches from molecular, chemical and microbiological techniques in food, and its application in human nutrition, we are committed to undertaking global challenges in securing, managing and distributing food for consumers. Study of management skills in food industry is crucial for food security in current generation. It entails scientific and social approach related to national and international demands in preserving food quality and management with the incorporation of environmental factors at industry, society and governmental levels.

Tuition fees

- Composition fee: HK$150,000 (subject to approval)
  - Students are required to pay Caution Money (HK$350, refundable on graduation subject to no claims being made) and Graduation Fee (HK$350)

Programme duration

- Full-time: 1 year

Study load

- Credits: 63 credits
- Learning hours: 1,260-1,890 hours (including 300 hours for project and contact hours of 252-378 hours)

Class schedule / format

- Teaching takes place mainly on weekday and some Saturday afternoons
  - Students are expected to participate in class discussion, conduct group and individual projects with continuous assessments

Medium of instruction

- English

Assessment

- Written work forms an essential part of the programme.
  - Courses in this programme are assessed in different ways, according to the requirements of each course:
    - a. by coursework assessment only;
    - b. by examination only;
    - c. both by coursework assessment and by examination.
  - The project report will be assessed by examiners and participation in the seminars at which students present their work is one of the requirements for the completion of this component of the degree curriculum

Host

School of Biological Sciences

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Network

- Food industries and institutions in Asia Pacific and Mainland China

Transferable skills

- Food product quality control
- Food product development and marketing
- Human resource management in food industry
- Financial and enterprise management in food industry

Career development

- Management in food related cooperations
- Marketing account manager, food division
- Food retail manager
- Entrepreneurship in food industry
- Food and produce broker
- Food product developer

For food and/or nutritional science graduates – an advanced training in management skills and marketing research methodology

Emphasises practical approaches to:

- quality assurance and safety management in processing, packaging, storage and distribution of food products
- waste management and control
- market research, financial planning, organisational culture, product development and evaluation
- compliance with food laws and regulations

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WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

Comprehensive courses (51 credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOOD7001</td>
<td>Quality assurance and management I (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOOD7002</td>
<td>Marketing management (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOOD7003</td>
<td>Future food (9 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOOD7004</td>
<td>Organisational behaviour (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOOD7005</td>
<td>Financial control (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOOD7006</td>
<td>Project (12 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOOD7007</td>
<td>Quality assurance and management II (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elective courses (12 credits)

Select any two elective courses from the following list:

- FOOD7003 Advance food technology (8 credits)
- FOOD7004 Food law and waste management (6 credits)
- FOOD7001 Food innovation & product development (6 credits)
- FOOD7002 Food marketing strategies (6 credits)

Total credits: 63

Design of curriculum (full-time)

Remark: The programme structure will be reviewed from time to time and is subject to change.

Programme Highlights

Comprehensive courses

FOOD7001 Quality assurance and management I

This course includes an overview of the practical aspects of quality management not only from consumers, but also stakeholders’ perspectives in managing a cost-effective quality department in multinational corporations. The application of different quality management systems by international food corporations will be discussed. The management of food laboratories as well as international lab accreditation requirements will be introduced in this course. Students will learn the different phases of crisis management supplemented with case studies for discussion and practice. Issue management, crisis handling, product recall and post-crisis recovery will be discussed. Students will learn the skills in risk management. Troubleshooting techniques for root cause analysis during product failure including microbiological troubleshooting will be discussed. Quality/process improvement tools will also be introduced.

FOOD7002 Future food

Due to social and consumer demands, practical modifications in food industries are inevitable globally. Notwithstanding, the use of advanced technology, AI and urban farming has become essential worldwide. Students will learn up-to-date approaches in sustaining food retail such as resources, digital business and the use of big data, and the application of modern farming in the city. Guest lectures from local and international experts will be invited to exchange real-life experience in the current food industry.

FOOD7003 Food innovation & product development (6 credits)

The course is designed to provide an understanding of the role of marketing in multinational business organisation and its contribution to business success. Students will be introduced to different marketing concepts, marketing programmes, planning and execution of marketing strategies. On completion of the course, students will be able to analyse customer requirements, competitive environment and to formulate effective marketing programme. Sharing sessions with international industry practitioners will be arranged to deliver the topics on marketing in food industry (F&B operations & marketing, food labelling tracking system, food safety management and accreditation of ISO 22000 standard to create/deliver customer value) and field work will be arranged to visit food industry settings in Hong Kong.

FOOD7004 Food law and waste management (6 credits)

The course aims to equip students with a better understanding of the complex array of behaviours in organisational life in global entities. It will analyse the determinants of human behaviour in an organisation at the individual, group and organisational levels. Topics covered will include motivation, performance management, group dynamics, leadership, organisational culture, management of conflict, management ethics, and the leading change of these topics.

FOOD7005 Financial control

The course aims to equip non-accounting professionals with the skills required to analyse and interpret the major financial reports prepared by international corporations. The focus of the course is on providing a user perspective of the financial statements and aim as how to use financial information in daily business life. In addition, the course addresses principles of basic financial management and explains the need for internal control procedures. Particular emphasis is given to develop an understanding of the balance sheet, profit and loss statement, and cash flow statement. The relationship between the statements will be explained and illustrated in detail. Study detail on different types of costing ad how they impact business decision in an international corporations will be taught. A framework for making business decisions by

Programme Structure

Who should Take this Programme

IS THE PROGRAMME FOR YOU

 ◦ Students are expected to have a science background preferably in food science and/or nutritional science

 ◦ The programme is intended for those who wish to:
   • Enhance their management skills in food industry
   • Enhance the learning of product development and marketing
   • Improve their knowledge in current food technology and preservation

Job positions held by some of our admitted students in past years are:

 ◦ Senior Health Inspector, Food & Environmental Hygiene Department, HKSAR Government
 ◦ Quality Control Officer, Vitasoy International Holdings Ltd.
 ◦ Head of Dietary Department, Tsuen Wan Adventist Hospital
 ◦ QA/R&D Supervisor, The Kowloon Dairy Ltd.
 ◦ Quality Assurance Officer, Cathay Pacific Catering Services (HK) Ltd.
 ◦ Quality Assurance Supervisor, Welcome Co. Ltd.
 ◦ Mechanic, City Super Ltd.
 ◦ Vending Services Assistant Manager, Swire Coca-Cola HK Ltd.
 ◦ Assistant Quality Assurance consultant, McDonald’s Restaurant
 ◦ Food Technician, Aroma Food Ltd.
 ◦ R&D Manager, Maxim’s Caterers Ltd.

Hear from our graduates

Chung Man WONG
Class of 2022

This MSc programme introduces food science-related theories (e.g. food processing technologies & quality management system), regulations and management skills (e.g. problem solving, change management & financial control). It enables us to enter the management level of the food industry through the reinforcement of food-related concepts and class discussions. Besides the curriculum, listening to interesting life experiences and workplace stories shared by different professors of the food industry nourished my study life. I feel satisfied and relieved with the support from my colleagues, friends, professors and families throughout the study journey despite it being stressful to strike a balance between study, work and life. With the new changes enforced in the curriculum, I believe it will be more favourable for people who would like to develop their career in the food industry in the foreseeable future.

Ronald Ping Chung TANG
Class of 2022

Taking the MSc in Food Industry Management and Marketing was an excellent experience to explore my potential talents. Through lectures and inspiring group projects, I have not only learned essential techniques in product development (R&D, packaging, marketing, quality assurance, financial management and legal compliance) but also strengthened my skills in leadership (communication, time management, team building and crisis management). The course is intriguing and keeps me abreast with new developments in the industry. If you enjoy the learning process and make good use of the synergy created from the interaction and network with the faculties, teammates and food industry experts, it would become a great asset for your career development and help you achieve remarkable outcomes in product invention.
Programme Highlights

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

analysing a set of financial statements using simple techniques

FOOD8008 Project
This is an individual or group research project to be carried out under the supervision of one or more faculty members in local or overseas institutions. Students may propose their own topics and approach potential supervisors, or they may consider those suggested by the faculty members. The proposed project title must be submitted for approval before starting the study. The candidate shall make a formal presentation on the subject of his/her project during the final semester of the teaching programme.

FOOD8010 Quality assurance and management II
This course includes an overview on quality management focused on global food safety and risk management. Students will learn food quality and safety management, and crisis and management in food industry. Core components in GMP and other international safety standards and religious related standards (GSSF, ISO, BRC, Halal, Kosher) will be introduced in this course. Through these foundations and exercises of problem solving, students will be able to apply the knowledge in decision making of crisis and the use of modern communications for intervention.

Elective courses

FOOD7003 Advance food technology
The effects of processing and packaging on the shelf lives and changes in physical and chemical characteristics of food products will be discussed. Emphasis will be placed on the food preservation methods to extend product shelf lives as applicable to the popular local food products. Methods for sensitive nutrients and techniques to preserve the characteristic aroma and taste of a product in processing modification will be reviewed. Issues related to nutrient enrichment and fortification will be discussed. Global case studies will be used to dispel the many misplaced information on food preservations and alternatives to extending shelf life of foods without the use of the traditional food preservatives. In addition, understanding of various newly world-visionic food ingredients for health will be introduced; reformulation to reduce sugar and fat as well as reinforcement of fibres to foods are to be discussed.

FOOD7004 Food law and waste management
Food laws and regulations are set out by government bodies around the world to ensure food safety and adequate quality. The course will provide students with a proper perspective on Hong Kong, China, EU, USA and international food laws and regulations, as well as familiarisation with international agencies such as the Codex Alimentarius Commission and World Trade Organization. This course will also address current applications and limitations of food waste treatment technologies. The handling and management of food waste is an important part of the green circular economy strategy which focuses on food waste minimisation, conversion and valorisation. These components will be further explored, by including the social, economic, and environmental implications associated with food waste.

FOOD8011 Food innovation & product development
The role of research from the management perspective in global corporations, the R&D process and the impact of technological innovation on the development of new products will be discussed. The impact of global issues in the direction of research and development for food corporations. The risks and opportunities of new product development for international markets. Interrelationship between product recipes, processing and food packaging in the food product development process will be discussed together with the effects of product formulations on food safety, sustainability, fair trade and business ethics will be highlighted.

Cultural aspects will be emphasised as an important consideration in developing new market frontiers. Differences between basic research and application research as applied in food product development will be deliberated along career prospects. The difference in the product development process among food companies as compared to more established FMCG global food companies will also be discussed with case studies, together with illustrations in actual product formulations. Consumer survey and data analysis will be covered. The application of information technology in food manufacturing and catering, and the concepts of logistics in supply chain and new regulations in cold chain and food delivery will be discussed.

FOOD8012 Food marketing strategies
Marketing approaches and techniques applied for food products include test marketing, segmentation, positioning, branding, targeting and consumer research. Notwithstanding the approach of market strategy including product choice, pricing, promotion and distribution in relation to the food industry will be discussed. In this course, advanced knowledge of the factors specific to food affecting the global sustainability of food production and the role that innovation can play in the sector will be addressed. Appreciation of the complex and global environment in which the food business currently operates and the uncertainties and risks attached to food production will be examined. The course cover issues and tasks that marketing managers face in dynamic marketplaces and the concepts that can be used for decision making and understand consumer behaviours towards food products sold in domestic and international market will be discussed.

More course information at:
https://www.scifac.hku.hk/ prospective/tpg/FoodInd

YOUR PROGRAMME EXPERTS

Programme Director
Dr Jetty C Y LEE
B Agr RU; MPhil, PhD HK; FHEA UK
Dr Jetty LEE leads the Undergraduate Food & Nutritional Science Major at HKU. Her management and teaching skills are highly recognised by her fellow colleagues and students, where she was awarded 2018-19 Faculty of Science Teaching Excellence Award. She recently received her Senior Fellowship awarded by Advanced Higher Education (UK). Dr Lee has authored or co-authored over 90 science journal papers. Her research work has centered around dietary lipids namely oxidised omega-fatty acids as specialised lipid mediators and biomarkers in human diseases. Using robust analytical tools, she integrated and applied the knowledge into her research that focus on bioactive roles of lipid mediators in health diseases, and the environment and marine ecosystem. Aside from science research, she has high interest in science education where she is currently co-investigating in several research projects, mentor Advanced Higher Education (HKU) and an inaugural member of HKU Teaching Academy.

Deputy Programme Director
Dr Mingfu WANG
BSc; PhD RU
Dr Mingfu WANG is an Honorary Associate Professor in the School of Biological Sciences, The University of Hong Kong, teaching and researching in the areas of food, nutritional science, and traditional Chinese medicine. He also holds adjunct professorships at Shanghai Ocean University, Jiangnan University and Jinan University. Food toxicology and health foods are the current focuses of Dr Wang’s research. In the past, his laboratory has successfully demonstrated the formation and inhibitory mechanism of several foodborne toxicants and discovered the new health benefits of some food components. Dr Wang has authored or co-authored over 200 science journal papers and two books, including the Handbook of Analytical Methods for Dietary Supplements published by the American Pharmacists Association. He is also a co-inventor of 10 patents/patent applications. He serves as an associate editor/editorial board member for several international journals in food science and toxicology including editor-in-chief for Journal of Functional Foods by Elsevier.
Part-time lecturers

- **Mr Albert P N Chan**
  - BSc(Hons), MSc *Manitoba*
  - Technology Advisor (Chinese & Western Food Worker Union and Food & Beverage Management and Professional Staff Association, HK)

- **Mr Alfred C W Cheung**
  - MSc *U of I*
  - Food Science; CFS; Visiting Professor (JNU)

- **Dr Olivier Habimana**
  - BSc; MSc *UMB*
  - PhD *Université Paris-Sud XI*
  - Assoc Prof GTIIT, Hon. Assist Prof SBS HKU

- **Ms May W M Kan**
  - BSc; MSc
  - Former Scientific Regulatory Affairs Director (Coca-Cola China Ltd.)

- **Dr Romeo J P Leu**
  - BS *FU*
  - MS *UW*
  - PhD *Texas A&M*
  - President (Chinese American Food Society)

- **Dr Stephen W K Ng**
  - MSc, EngDoc *Warwick*
  - FIMC; AF-ICMCI; CIPS (UK); FIPSHK; FCILTHK; Member of Logscouncil, HKSAR; Adjunct Professor (BJU and BWU)

- **Mr Billy H Tang**
  - BSc, MSc *OSU*
  - Consultant (Dongguan Continental Food Ltd. of Café de Coral); Technical Expert (Hong Kong Accreditation Service)

- **Dr Terence H Y Wan**
  - BA(Hons); LLB; MBus; MA; PhD; FCPA (Practising); FCPA (AUS); CTA (HK); FTIHK; SQ (Insolvency); CFP (MY)

- **Dr Jennifer M F Wan**
  - BSc *London*
  - BChinMed *BUCM*
  - PhD *Southampton*

- **Ms Mary W M Wong**
  - BSc, MSc *HKU*
  - Global QSR lead (Asia Pacific region)

**Admissions**

**Requirements**

- A Bachelor’s degree with Honours in Science
- Preference will be given to those specialising in food science, nutrition or other related major
- Fulfil the University Entrance Requirements

**How to apply**

Application deadline: 12:00 noon (GMT +8), April 28, 2023

Online application:
[admissions.hku.hk/tpg/](https://admissions.hku.hk/tpg/)

**Expected graduation time for normal course of studies**

Winter (November / December 2024)

**Further Information**

**Programme details**


**Support for students**

[www.cedars.hku.hk/](http://www.cedars.hku.hk/)

**Enquiries**

**School of Biological Sciences**

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E-mail: biotpg@hku.hk

**Programme Director**

Dr Jetty C Y Lee
Tel: (852) 2299 0318
E-mail: jettylee@hku.hk

**Deputy Programme Director**

Dr Mingfu Wang
E-mail: mfwang@hku.hk

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**Faculty of Science**

*(Contact information for Faculty of Science, including telephone, email, and website)*